

**IN THE CLAIMS**

The status of the claims is as noted below.

1. (Original) A plate for generating conversations, comprising:

a substantially flat central portion for holding an object;

a raised side surface positioned coaxially with said substantially flat central portion;

a circular perforation formed coaxially with said substantially flat central portion and said raised side surface and positioned at a border between said substantially flat central portion and said raised side surface; and

a plurality of axial perforations formed in said raised side surface extending along an entire width thereof from said circular perforation to an outer edge of said raised side surface;

each adjacent pair of said plurality of axial perforations and a corresponding portion of said circular perforation defining a selectively removable tab, said selectively removable tab including text material thereon.

2. (Original) The plate of claim 1, wherein said text material is printed on an upper surface of said tab and comprises an open-ended opinion-evoking statement.

3. (Original) The plate of claim 1, wherein said text material is printed on both an upper and lower surface of said tab, said text material printed on said upper surface comprising a question, and said text material printed on said lower surface comprising a corresponding answer to said question.

4. (Original) A plate for generating conversations, comprising:

a substantially flat central portion for holding an object;

a raised side surface positioned coaxially with said substantially flat central portion;

a plurality of removable tabs positioned substantially axially to said substantially flat central

portion and raised side surface, said removable tabs including text material thereon.

5. (Original) The plate of claim 4, wherein said text material is printed on an upper surface of said tabs and comprises an open-ended opinion-evoking statement.

6. (Original) The plate of claim 4, wherein said text material is printed on both an upper and lower surface of said tabs, said text material printed on said upper surface comprising a question, and said text material printed on said lower surface comprising a corresponding answer to said question.

7. (Original) A plate for generating conversations, comprising:  
a substantially flat central portion for holding an object;  
a raised side surface positioned coaxially with said substantially flat central portion;  
a circular perforation formed coaxially with said substantially flat central portion and said raised side surface and positioned within said raised side surface; and  
a plurality of axial perforations formed in said raised side surface extending along an entire width thereof from said circular perforation to an outer edge of said raised side surface;  
each adjacent pair of said plurality of axial perforations and a corresponding portion of said circular perforation defining a selectively removable tab, said selectively removable tab including text material thereon.

8. (Original) The plate of claim 7, wherein said text material is printed on an upper surface of said tab and comprises an open-ended opinion-evoking statement.

9. (Original) The plate of claim 7, wherein said text material is printed on both an upper and lower surface of said tab, said text material printed on said upper surface comprising a question, and said text material printed on said lower surface comprising a corresponding answer to said question.

Claims 10-13 (Cancelled).

14. (Original) A plate for generating conversations, comprising:  
a substantially flat central portion for holding an object;  
a raised side surface positioned coaxially with said substantially flat central portion; and  
one or more selectively removable perforated cutouts formed in said raised side surface,  
each of said selectively removable perforated cutouts including text material thereon.

15. (Original) The plate of claim 14, wherein said text material is printed on an  
upper surface of said selectively removable perforated cutout and comprises an open-ended opinion-  
evoking statement.

16. (Original) The plate of claim 14, wherein said text material is printed on both  
an upper and lower surface of said selectively removable perforated cutouts, said text material printed on  
said upper surface comprising a question, and said text material printed on said lower surface comprising a  
corresponding answer to said question.

17. (Original) The plate of claim 14, wherein said plate retains a consistent  
overall diameter even after removal of said selectively removable perforated cutouts.

18. (Original) A plate for generating conversations, comprising:  
a substantially flat central portion for holding an object;  
a raised side surface positioned coaxially with said substantially flat central portion; and  
one or more selectively removable covered tabs formed on said raised side surface, each of  
said selectively removable covered tabs including text material thereunder.

19. (Original) The plate of claim 18, wherein said text material printed under  
said selectively removable covered tab comprises an open-ended opinion-evoking statement.

20. (Original) The plate of claim 18, wherein said text material printed under one

of said selectively removable covered tabs comprises a question, and said text material printed under another of said selectively removable covered tabs comprises a corresponding answer to said question.

21. (Original) The plate of claim 18, wherein said selectively removable covered tabs comprise lightly coated adhesive strips that may be peeled off.

22. (Original) The plate of claim 18, wherein said selectively removable covered tabs may be scratched off utilizing standard well-known scratch-off techniques.

Claims 23-35 (Cancelled).

36. (Currently Amended) A plate for generating conversations, comprising:  
a substantially flat central portion for holding an object;  
a raised side surface positioned coaxially with said substantially flat central portion;  
a plurality of axial perforations formed in said raised side surface extending along a portion of a width of, and to an outer edge of, said raised side surface;  
each adjacent pair of said plurality of axial perforations and a corresponding portion of said a circular perforation defining a tab, said tab including text material thereon; and  
an adhesive positioned on an underside of said tab;  
whereby when said tab is folded under said raised side surface said tab is fixed to the underside of said raised side surface.

37. (Original) The plate of claim 36, wherein said text material is printed on an upper surface of said tab and comprises an open-ended opinion-evoking statement.

38. (Original) The plate of claim 36, wherein said text material is printed on both an upper and lower surface of said tab, said text material printed on said upper surface comprising a question, and said text material printed on said lower surface comprising a corresponding answer to said question.

39. (Original) The plate of claim 36, wherein additional text material is printed on said raised side surface adjacent said tab, said additional text material comprising a question, and said text material printed on said tab comprising a corresponding answer to said question.

Claims 40-62 (Cancelled).